



# WATERTOWN

## Middlesex County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

Founded in 1630, Watertown was the first inland settlement in Massachusetts and initially encompassed the present communities of Weston, Waltham and large sections of Lincoln, Belmont, and Cambridge --thus becoming one of the largest American settlements of its time.

Settled by Englishmen who had set sail on the Arbella, and were led by Sir Richard Saltonstall, Watertown quickly grew to be an important center for trade, commerce, and industry.

Over the years this community has played an important role in Massachusetts history, once serving as the temporary seat of government during the Revolutionary War.

It was here that Paul Revere, who once resided in Watertown, printed the first paper money for the Province of Massachusetts. At the Old Bemis Mills located here canvas sails were woven for the U.S.S. Constitution. Manufacturing industries included that of the renowned Stanley Steamers as well as the old black Crawford Stoves. And just around the bend of Mt.Auburn Street outside Watertown Square the Mugar family opened what was to be the first of many stores in the famous Star Market chain.

Today Watertown is rich in ethnic diversity and culture, boasts a high level of citizen involvement and many amenities such as shopping malls, swimming pools, country and tennis clubs, skating rinks, eleven fine parks and public transportation providing easy access to Boston and surrounding communities.

Watertown is within twenty minutes travel to all major highways in eastern Massachusetts, including the Massachusetts Turnpike, Routes 128, 95, 93, 2, 16 and 20. In addition, it is serviced by rail lines and commuter bus lines, and has easy access to Logan International Airport in Boston.

(Narrative supplied by community)



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Belmont and Cambridge on the north, Boston and Newton on the south, and Waltham on the west. Watertown is 6 miles northwest of Boston on the Charles River, 22 miles south of Lowell, 36 miles east of Worcester, and 215 miles from New York City.

**Total Area:** 4.16 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 4.11 sq. miles

**Population:** 33,284

**Density:** 8,098 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Boston WSO Station)

Normal temperature in January.....28.6°F

Normal temperature in July.....73.5°F

Normal annual precipitation.....41.5"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Newton, Lexington

## Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (617) 972-6465

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Town Council

Town Manager

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1630

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 20,077

Democrats 10,751 53.5 % Republicans 1,978 9.9 % Other parties 16 0.1 % Unenrolled Voters 7,332 36.5 %

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Watertown city, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	32,986	100.0	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>		
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			Total population.....	32,986	100.0
Male.....	15,265	46.3	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	883	2.7
Female.....	17,721	53.7	Mexican.....	89	0.3
Under 5 years.....	1,535	4.7	Puerto Rican.....	115	0.3
5 to 9 years.....	1,182	3.6	Cuban.....	53	0.2
10 to 14 years.....	1,299	3.8	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	626	1.9
15 to 19 years.....	1,440	4.4	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	32,103	97.3
20 to 24 years.....	2,371	7.2	White alone.....	29,591	89.7
25 to 34 years.....	7,595	23.0	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>		
35 to 44 years.....	5,535	16.8	Total population.....	32,986	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	4,035	12.2	In households.....	31,741	96.2
55 to 59 years.....	1,409	4.3	Householder.....	14,629	44.3
60 to 64 years.....	1,140	3.5	Spouse.....	5,539	16.8
65 to 74 years.....	2,590	7.9	Child.....	6,597	20.0
75 to 84 years.....	2,108	6.4	Own child under 18 years.....	4,363	13.2
85 years and over.....	807	2.4	Other relatives.....	1,493	4.5
Median age (years).....	36.7	(X)	Under 18 years.....	245	0.7
18 years and over.....	28,327	85.9	Nonrelatives.....	3,483	10.6
Male.....	12,919	39.2	Unmarried partner.....	811	2.5
Female.....	15,408	46.7	In group quarters.....	1,245	3.8
21 years and over.....	27,096	82.1	Institutionalized population.....	471	1.4
62 years and over.....	6,192	18.8	Noninstitutionalized population.....	774	2.3
65 years and over.....	5,505	16.7	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>		
Male.....	2,013	6.1	Total households.....	14,629	100.0
Female.....	3,492	10.6	Family households (families).....	7,325	50.1
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	2,602	17.8
One race.....	32,344	98.1	Married-couple family.....	5,539	37.9
White.....	30,155	91.4	With own children under 18 years.....	2,037	13.9
Black or African American.....	572	1.7	Female householder, no husband present.....	1,278	8.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	54	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	449	3.1
Asian.....	1,276	3.9	Nonfamily households.....	7,304	49.9
Asian Indian.....	257	0.8	Householder living alone.....	4,993	34.1
Chinese.....	496	1.5	Householder 65 years and over.....	1,812	12.4
Filipino.....	60	0.2	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,782	19.0
Japanese.....	82	0.2	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	3,913	26.7
Korean.....	131	0.4	Average household size.....	2.17	(X)
Vietnamese.....	106	0.3	Average family size.....	2.86	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	154	0.5	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	6	-	Total housing units.....	15,008	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	14,629	97.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	379	2.5
Samoa.....	3	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	2	-	occasional use.....	49	0.3
Some other race.....	281	0.9	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.4	(X)
Two or more races.....	642	1.9	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	1.6	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>		
<i>or more other races: <sup>3</sup></i>			Occupied housing units.....	14,629	100.0
White.....	30,727	93.2	Owner-occupied housing units.....	6,881	47.0
Black or African American.....	682	2.1	Renter-occupied housing units.....	7,748	53.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	117	0.4	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.31	(X)
Asian.....	1,476	4.5	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.05	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	29	0.1			
Some other race.....	625	1.9			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



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# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 539

Conventional Federal: 50

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 38

Federal (Section 8): 159



# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

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Watertown is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

### Major Highways

Principal highways are U.S. Route 20 and State Route 16.

### Rail

Commuter rail service to North Station, Boston, is available on the Gardner Line from Waverly Station. Travel time: 17 min.; no parking available. The MBTA Red Line is accessible at Harvard Station and Central Station. Freight rail service is available from the Springfield Terminal Railway. Contact number: (508) 663-1073

### Bus

Watertown is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). The MBTA provides fixed route service to neighboring communities and to Harvard and Central Stations on the Red Line. The MBTA also provides THE RIDE, a paratransit service for the elderly and disabled.

### Other

Logan International Airport is easily accessible from Watertown.



# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

Armenian Library and Museum of America

65 Main Street

(617) 926-2562

Museum of the History of Blindness, Perkins School for the Blind

175 N. Beacon Street

(617) 924-3434

## MUSEUMS

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

None

### Long Term Care

Charlesgate Manor Convalescent Home

Emerson Convalescent Home

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

Marshall House

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.